

MEDIA CONTACT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 4, 2013

Christopher Miles: Bloom

March 10, 2013–July 28, 2013



Christopher Miles, *Untitled (Vincent Price Oppenheimer Mullican)* [detail], 2012.
Acrylic, paper, and aluminum, 51 x 54 x 36 inches. Courtesy of the artist.
Photograph by Cecily Miles.

PASADENA, CA — The Pasadena Museum of California Art (PMCA) proudly presents *Christopher Miles: Bloom*, the first solo museum exhibition of work by Los Angeles artist Christopher Miles, curated by art writer Constance Mallinson. On view in the museum's Back Gallery from March 10 to July 28, 2013, the exhibition includes recent works constructed out of acrylic paint and paper over aluminum armatures—a kind of ambitious update of the papier-mâché method. Bridging painting and sculpture, the works formally address the artist's combined preoccupations with three-dimensional form and forming, material presence and spatial actuality, texture and surface, as well as color, mark, light, and visual effect.

The works stem from Miles' ongoing interests in sculpture as constructed form and the expressive potential of sculpture—interests that he has explored in his ceramic sculptures. Abstract yet evocative, and riddled with crevices, openings, and protrusions that compel viewers to bob and weave while looking, the sculptures are designed to be engaging and confronting from all angles. Miles examines the peripatetic experience of sculpture, in the evocative and associative potential of form, and in the pleasure that comes with exploring the relationship between exterior and interior. The sculptures immerse the viewer in an awareness of the present that shifts from one moment to the next.

PASADENA MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA ART

Christopher Miles: Bloom

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The work provokes an experience that unfolds in time and space, but also in the viewer's associations. Miles explains "in the experience of a work, one might find suggestions of terrestrial, celestial, plant, animal, human, and machine form; one might encounter the humorous, the seductive, the beautiful, the tragic, the repellant, and the corrupt; one might find that the lovely and the monstrous are just around the bend from one another, that slick and rough, machined and hewn can coexist, that light touch can conspire with blunt trauma."

Christopher Miles completed his BA at the College of Creative Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara, and his MFA at the School of Fine Arts, University of Southern California. He is an award-winning writer and curator who published extensively between 1995 and 2010, and continues to write and curate. His work has been included in multiple exhibitions in Southern California since 2010. Miles has taught at multiple art schools and departments in Southern California, and has taught at California State University, Long Beach, since 1998. At CSULB, he served as Chair of the Department of Art from 2010 to 2012. He served briefly as the inaugural Director of the new CSULB School of Art, and now serves as the interim Dean of the CSULB College of the Arts.

This exhibition is curated by Constance Mallinson. This exhibition is supported by the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Museum of California Art.



Christopher Miles, *Untitled (Ecce Homo Lancelot Marini)* [detail], 2012. Acrylic, paper, and aluminum, 83 x 60 x 30 inches. Courtesy of the artist. Photograph by Cecily Miles.

OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday, March 9, 2012 | 7–9pm

\$5 admission | Free for PMCA members

PLAN YOUR VISIT

490 East Union Street, Pasadena, CA 91101

626.568.3665 | pmcaonline.org

HOURS

Open Wednesday–Sunday, 12–5pm

Closed July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

ADMISSION

\$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students

Free for PMCA members and children under 12

Free the first Friday of the month (all day)

Free the third Thursday of the month (5–8pm)

MISSION

The mission of the Pasadena Museum of California Art (PMCA) is to present the breadth of California art and design through exhibitions that explore the cultural dynamics and influences that are unique to California.

DOCENT TOURS

Available Wednesday–Friday, 12–5pm

Private groups of 10–50 people for \$75 total

\$40 deposit due two weeks in advance

GROUP RATES

Available for groups of 20+ for \$3 per person

Free for K–12 public school student groups

Please notify us at least one week in advance.

Contact Alexis Kaneshiro at 626.568.3665 x13 or akaneshiro@pmcaonline.org.

PROGRAMS

ArtNight Pasadena

Friday, March 8, 2013 / 6:00–10:00pm

Enjoy a free evening of art, music, and entertainment as Pasadena's most prominent arts and cultural institutions swing open their doors.

FREE

Opening Reception

Saturday, March 9, 2013 / 7:00–9:00pm

Join us for the opening reception for three new exhibitions.

\$5 admission | Free for PMCA members

Special Members-Only Hour

Sunday, March 10, 2013 / 11:00am–12:00pm

Members have the galleries to themselves before regular Museum hours.

Free for PMCA members

In Dialogue

Sunday, April 7, 2013 / 3:00pm

Curator Constance Mallinson and artist Christopher Miles discuss Miles' abstract yet evocative sculptures featured in his exhibition *Bloom*.

Family Day

Saturday, June 22, 2013 / 3:00–5:00pm

Participate in fun art projects for the whole family based on our current exhibitions.

All ages welcome!

All programs are free with admission and free for PMCA members unless otherwise noted.